of opium from illicit cultivation, drug enforcement agencies keep strict vigil and stringent penal measures have been provided under the N.D.P.S. Act. However, during 1990-91, about 0.25% of opium legally produced in India was issued by Government for use by registered opium addicts on medical grounds.

Government's Stand on Introduction of Consignment Tax

1918. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Raja Chelliah Committee has opposed the introduction of consignment tax;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a majority of Chief Ministers in the earlier meetings favoured its introduction; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government on Dr. Chelliah Committee recommendations on Consignment Tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Deos not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

New Format of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account in Banks

1919. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked the public sector banks to compile their balance sheets, and profit and loss account according to a new format; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the relative advantages over the earlier procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) A notification was issued by Government on 18th January, 1991 giving notice of its intention to modify the formats of Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account of Commercial banks, after the expiry of three months from the date of publication. Certain suggestions received in response to the said notification were examined by Government in consultation with Reserve Bank of India and another notification has been issued on 19th December, 1991 indicating Government's intention to introduce revised formats after expiry of three months from the date of publication. The proposed formats would have, *inter-alia*, the following features:

(i) They will give a more comprehensive picture of both income and expenditure;

(ii) They will ensure uniformity in the classification of various items of assets and liabilities as well as income and expenditure; and

(iii) They will include statements on accounting policies to facilitate easy understanding.

The new formats are proposed to be made effective from the current accounting Year ending 31st March, 1992.

Vacant Posts of Public Representatives in Saurashtra Kutch Stock Exchange, Rajkot

1920. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three posts of public representatives are lying vacant from very beginning in Saurashtra Kutch Stock Exchange at Rajkot;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard; and

(c) whether any complaints have been received by Government against the said stock exchange; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names for Public Representatives for the first year of the